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## GROUP DISCUSSION

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Describe one of the positive character traits your mom or dad had, faithfulness, diligence, compassion, generosity or self-control.

### Read: Psalm 25, Guidance

Psalm 25 is an acrostic Psalm, meaning each verse begins with the next letter of the Hebrew alphabet. Therefore it has 22 verses because there are 22 letters, because there are no vowels in Hebrew. It's like the old Nat King Cole song, "L. is for the way she LOOKS at me, O. is for the ONLY one I see, V. is VERY, very, extraordinary, E. is EVEN more than anyone that you adore can..." The reason the writer uses an acrostic is that he is emphasizing the whole and complete theme of his subject which is guidance. David wants you to know that you can depend on God for guidance. If you're looking for God's will Psalm 25 is a great Psalm to read.

The big idea of God's will is that, "God is more concerned with who you are than where you are." It's all about character and being who God designed you to be.

What is one of the first character traits that God worked on in your life when you became serious about following Him? What were some of the challenges of developing that character trait? Do you think you've made enough progress on that particular trait? What is the character trait that God is working on in your life right now? What are the challenges of developing that trait? Who do you know that is a great example of that trait?

Verse 11 is the center line of this acrostic. 11 For Your name's sake, O LORD, Pardon my iniquity, for it is great. Why would David at this very center point want to pray to God about his failures in developing godly character? When you're developing character what should be the % of success and failure? Why do you think David calls on God's name to be the secure place where your failures get forgiven?

Proverbs 18:10 says, "The name of the Lord is a strong tower, The righteous runs into it and is safe." What did a strong tower accomplish in Solomon's day? For what kind of safety is Solomon searching. If your sins are forgiven your pronounced righteous, I think Solomon runs to the tower of God's name for the surety of forgiveness. Do you feel, sense or accept God's forgiveness? Where do you find it hard to accept forgiveness? Where do you find it difficult to extend forgiveness to others? Is that a character trait that God might want to develop further in your life?

Family Time: Read Psalm 25:11 to your kids and ask them who would they most trust, someone in their family named mom or dad, or someone they had never ever met named (a name that is unknown to them so they can't picture anyone.) Ask them, "Why do you think you have more trust in me?" Use their answer to talk about how that's the same reasons we can trust God.